

## YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

**Monday, September 15, 2008**

### Summary Notes

**Board members present:** Jim Gibson, Bob Moir, Brian Donegan, Mike Neilson, Don Simpson, Bill Rossello, Jeff Murphy, Dennis Burstein, Bill Rivers

**Staff members present:** William Chesley, Mac Slover

**Guests:** Roger Blakeley (ADPR&CA); Bob McKeag (new Athletic Director at T. C.)

The meeting started with Mac introducing a guest – Bob McKeag, the new Athletic Director at T. C. Bob gave an overview of his background in athletics from starting in Pennsylvania and continuing at various locations in Virginia. An open discussion between Bob and the Board members followed. Topics included:

- Bob agreeing with the concept of Rec Dept. teams attending T. C. games free of charge.
- Mac informing Bob of the Cheerleading competition that the Rec Dept. holds at T. C. It's the biggest single sporting event in the City.
- Mike re-emphasized the need for effective communication between T. C. and the Rec Dept. – particularly on things like rainouts and rescheduling of high school games.
- Cooperation was also encouraged on sharing of fields between the two programs.
- Various members also encouraged shared clinics and coaches' meetings between the T. C. coaches and the Rec Dept. coaches.

The overall theme was that there is a good cooperative atmosphere that has been created between the programs over the past several years and everyone was interested in making sure that continues.

Dennis had to leave early so he gave a quick update on school P. E. activities:

- Fitness For Life training taking place in October at the schools.
- A new concept in P. E. activities – Hopsports – has been introduced at G. W. It will be started at T. C. and Hammond now. Funding for Hammond is a joint venture between the United Way and the Washington Redskins. T. C. is also funded through several different sources.
- The school system held a sports circus at John Adams last spring – good success.

Roger then went over the status of the fields plan. He gave a background so Bob McKeag could see how far things have developed.

- 2005/2006 – started process – planning began.

- 2007 – Minnie Howard artificial turf field with lights completed.
- 2008 – Fort Ward artificial turf field with lights completed.
- 2008 – New grass field installed for soccer at Four Mile Run (ready in the spring)
- 2008 – New artificial turf field at T. C. completed.
- 2009 – Braddock Road is planned:
  - 2 artificial turf fields
  - track
  - softball field
  - restroom
  - Note: The City is short of dollars for the Braddock Road complex. They are considering moving funds previously set aside for the All-City Facility to pay for the Braddock Road improvements.
- 2010 – Considering new general use artificial turf fields at Mount Vernon School and Ewald Park.
- 2010 – Two artificial turf fields at Potomac Yards.
  - City paying \$850,000 to upgrade to artificial turf for these two fields.
- 2011 – Roth Witter:
  - Two artificial turf fields and one softball field – all with lights.
  - This is predicated on making the softball field available to the T. C. softball program and converting their old field at Boothe to baseball.
- 2012 + - Hammond lower field.
  - Pushed out due to dollars needed

Roger also indicated that 11 tennis courts in the City have either been resurfaced or are being resurfaced now. Action is also proceeding on resurfacing 4 basketball courts. Bill indicated that he and Jon Liss would continue follow up with the City on the basketball court improvements.

Jim asked each Board member to give a program update:

- Mac (Rec Dept):
  - Thursday – meeting with softball/baseball programs on fields.
  - 10/2 – meeting with programs using rectangular fields.
- Jim (Football):
  - Season has started.
  - 15 teams; 300 kids.
  - Fully staffed with coaches.
  - Crossover from Lacrosse players.
  - Again mentioned that the City's engineered fields for football are the best in the Northern region.
- William (Rec Dept.):
  - Houston is scheduled for completion in April 2009.
  - Patrick Henry is next on the improvement list.

- Bill (Soccer):
  - Fall season has started.
  - Program continues to grow - about 1800 kids; 140 teams.
  - Travel program has the most kids ever – 295.
- Brian (Lacrosse):
  - Fall clinics have started.
  - 1 done; 5 more to go.
  - About 160 kids attending.
- Mike (Baseball):
  - Fall instructional program is underway.
- Bob (Parks and Recreation):
  - They are now considering proposed ideas for the Patrick Henry re-do.
- Bill (Basketball) :
  - Registration has started for the winter season.
- Jeff (Rugby):
  - New rugby movie coming out.
  - Pre-screening at Hoffman to benefit the Rugby Boosters program.
  - Mayor's Cup next year; possibly at Episcopal.
- Mac (Rec Dept. programs):
  - Girls Volleyball has started; still working on getting a boys program going.
  - The Fall basketball clinics have started.
  - Cheerleading has started practicing.
    - 12/13 competition at T. C.
  - This has been the best year in a while for football.

Bill asked for any changes to the August minutes to be submitted to him by 9/22.

Jim concluded the meeting by reminding sports about getting liaisons established for the Gazette if they wanted to see their sports covered in that paper.

The next meeting will be October 20<sup>th</sup>.